

INFOCUS

September 2017

www.morganhillphotographyclub.org

September Meeting: Building a Photographic Garden

Morgan Hill Photography Club's September meeting shall be a learning and entertainment masterpiece. The number of items to photograph is surely next to infinity yet flowers are near the top of most people's list.

Mark Grzan will present his summer project, "Building a Photographer's Garden" with the installation of over 100 beautiful and exquisite plants all for the purpose to photograph. Mark will discuss what makes a photographer's garden; he will provide construction images, installation tips, plant selection, initial and final preparation, preliminary images, tips on light, flash, composition, camera settings, equipment, lenses, and post processing.

Mark will also provide a list and discuss local nurseries and their specialties. Did you know there is a wonderful Dahlia nursery just a few miles away in Correlates! The presentation will provide a wealth of information and interesting dialog.

September's featured photographer is Shea Collinge. Come early, or stay late & see her images, talk to her about her work, and enjoy her creativity.

Wednesday,
September 6th
Centennial Recreation
Senior Center
171 W. Edmundson



MORGAN HILL
PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB

SEPTEMBER ISSUE

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Monthly Theme

The Monthly Photo Themes for 2017

April – Glassware

May – Streams & Rivers

June – Tools

July – Looking Through a Window

August – Selfies

SEPTEMBER – TRAINS

October – Dilapidated Buildings

November – Cars

December – Orchards/Vineyards

Editor's Note

by [Jeff DuBridge](#)

Thankfully, I made it! My trip to Casper, Wyoming to view the solar eclipse was worth it. I know that I could have went to Madras, Oregon and viewed the solar eclipse there but I wanted to view it a little later in the day and higher in the sky. The sun was about 90% its highest rise in the sky in Casper, also, the length of the eclipse lasted 22 seconds longer.

Now, I can go on and on about the eclipse and how fun it was to witness but in reality, you had to be there. Let me just say, while it didn't last long, it was worth the trip.

My trip there was the hardest part. I meant to travel to the furthest city west in Utah (don't recall the name), spend the night and travel to Casper the next day. I didn't. Left Friday, around 12:30 in the afternoon for my trip to Utah and it took me five hours to get to the outskirts of Sacramento. Mistake. Instead, I spent about two hours sleeping at a truck stop somewhere, awoke and drove straight on into Casper. With my sleep—26 hours. The only good part was the luck of traveling most of Nevada to the Great Salt Lake in the dark—I didn't miss much.

On the trip back home, I spent the night in St. George, Utah. It was the way back were I made the right decision, you see, after the eclipse, I spent the night in Casper—actually right outside of town at some ladies nine acre barren grass land—and left the next day. A few hours after the eclipse I drove into town to get some gas for my next morning's trip and discovered, from an old veteran just driving in from Cheyenne with his wife, that it was backed up for fifty miles!

Earlier this month, our fine club president, George Ziegler, made a Yahoo Group post about how, "71-year-old photographer and location scout Edward French was fatally shot as two assailants stole his camera at a popular San Francisco landmark. French was photographing the sunrise from Twin Peaks, a pair of hills overlooking the city, when the murder occurred."

Photographers have been assaulted before by assailants in San Francisco. Say, I'm going to Twin Peaks next week. Want to come?



George knows best what to do here, "Always be alert to your surroundings and carry Bear Spray/Mace on your person as your defense."



Good decision George, I first thought of a gun.

I recently read another news article concerning the death, "Police have arrested two suspects in the murder and prosecutors say they have video evidence of the crime." Good news? Sort of.

Lynda.com, is an excellent website to join, with tons of video course on photographic topics, including Lightroom and Photoshop, but it costs \$19.99 per month. Ouch. Gordon Thenemann, also on Yahoo Groups, informed us if you have a Santa Clara County Library card, you can access the Lynda.com website through the SCCL system. This [link](#) will take you to the Lynda.com login page. At this point you will be asked to provide your library card number and the PIN number that you created for your card.

This one's good. It was a few years ago a Dallas couple complained all over the place about their wedding photographer's "hidden charge of \$125." Their complaint goes viral on social media, and the couple goes on local news (tv & newspaper) to complain that the photographer was holding their wedding photos hostage.

According to the photographer, all the couple had to do was choose a cover for their wedding album, fill out a form and pay a \$125 fee. The couple had agreed to that charge, in writing, beforehand.

After months of trying to work things out with the couple, including offering to absorb the fee, the couple refused, and due to all the negative press, the photographer's career ended, and decided to sue in March 2015.

And, get this, the photographer won and was awarded \$1.08 million!

August Meeting Review

The August meeting was, if you missed it, an excellent meeting in that it provided us with details of the Morgan Hill Photography Club's Focus Groups. While we all know that the Focus Groups exist, as they have for many years now, unless you've had a chance to go to one of their meetings, the question arises; what do they actually do? An easy question. Here goes.



The best group presentation was, by far, from [George Ziegler](#) on the details of his long running Lightroom Focus Group. George is, without doubt, an expert in Lightroom and, in addition, Photoshop. He describes that the fundamentals of Lightroom can be learned in a fairly straightforward fashion but it is in the intricacies of the program where the true power, effectiveness, and speed of the

program can be harnessed. Much of his guidance is not written in text, or recorded in video, but has been mastered through years of use. While Lightroom is an excellent program, here's the fact: it doesn't do everything. At times, Photoshop can be used in areas that Lightroom does not cover (no one program ever has it all) and the group learns how to use Photoshop for those periodic changes to photos, which can be, with George's help, easily understood. Here's the best part, only the tap of a few keys brings the photo automatically over to Photoshop and, the same keys bring the photo back to Lightroom, just as if the two programs were one. George's Lightroom Focus Group meetings focus on either a planned presentation, or, just ask, and the meeting can address any questions you might have. Don't miss it. The Lightroom Group meets the the third Thursday of every month. Contact George for time & place.

The Night Focus Group has been restarted by [Noël Calvi](#) and [Rick Rasmussen](#). While Noël and Rick are definitely in the dark, that's exactly where they want you to be. Night Photography can be loads of fun but requires some techniques which can be learned through days or weeks of trial and error, or by a simple travel to a Night Focus Group meeting. Enough for now as, being the Focus Group of the Month, Noël will further explain the benefits of this focus group in another article.

People Focus Group is easy to understand as it focuses on... people. [Larry Campbell](#) described how the group specifically spends time on taking pictures of people from a full body pose, all the way into tight headshots. Photos are taken both inside and out via a variety of tools and techniques. As an example, Larry described how the tools used inside a building can range from expensive, many thousands, strobe lighting all the way down to the ordinary light bulb. If you don't have either, that's all the better because Larry explains how no *one* People Focus Group member knows it all (not one photographer, anywhere, ever knows it all), and how each member loves to explain not only how their lighting works, but to also allow any member to use their lighting equipment so they can understand how lighting—sometimes just off camera flash—can be utilized in portrait photography. Interested? All you need to bring is

your camera. The group meets every 4–6 weeks. Meeting are held either local or on trips to other locations. Contact Larry Campbell for meeting details.

Macro Focus Group has also had a restart via the guidance of [Ron Cabral](#). Macro photography, a focus on photographing small objects, is very popular. These objects can be anything you'd like such as flowers, tools, toys, insects (be careful with the spiders though...of course, spiders aren't even insects), eyes, parts of a house, car, plant, or tree, or even, just plain old trash.

The group is similar to other Focus Groups by supplying both study, practice, trips, or anything macro. While special macro lenses are made, normal zoom lenses will usually have a macro setting, so, as with the other groups, just show up and have some fun.

Next is the ever expanding Video & Drone Focus Group. [David Fredericks](#) leads the group and the group has recently spent much time shooting videos via their drones. With a drone, one can probe almost anywhere, assuming it is legal (read George Ziegler's article on the legality of drones in last month's *InFocus*), from both high and low. The group meets the third Tuesday of every month, contact David for times and places.

[Ram Gupta](#) manages the Compact Camera Focus Group. For many, the compact camera (either a small hand-held all the way to the smart phone), provides photographing various environments in a simple, go anywhere manner. The group meets periodically and discusses the tools, techniques, practice, and most anything in the realm of the compact camera. Contact Ram for meeting times and places.

Lastly there is the Printing Focus Group. In truth this group doesn't really exist anymore but [Jack Yovanov](#) lead the group for years and has a variety of documents to aid in improving your printing. If your truly interested in learning more than is supplied in Jack's documents, he can provide tips on where to look for acquiring knowledge in the specific areas your interested in. Also, if a large enough group is interested in learning more about printing photographs, contact Jack & he may provide guidance in starting the group once again. *[ed., this was not verified with Jack but it never hurts to ask]*



This Month's Featured Photographer: Chris Rettig

Chris, and his wife, have compiled a small sampling of various pictures showing their kids during last years marching band season. The pictures are from the Gilroy High School marching band and color guard competitions. Chirs best describes, "It was really cool to watch the kids grow during all of this time and I captured some of the work that goes into this. Some events they won first place and others last but it was fun. My wife and I are volunteers that go with the kids to all the events, towing trailers, help unload and set up, feed the kids, tear

down and head home. During times that we are not working I get to snap a few pics of the band."

Their photos truly bring out the nuances of competition by displaying time and effort students place in preparing, which are surely arduous, yet still pleasing in presentations of their final event. It is hoped the kids thank them for all time and effort they put forth by aiding in their competitions and events.

Photos © Chris Rettig





Once again, the Best Part of this Month's *InFocus*: Logo patches are available at all meetings!

- Logo Patches \$5
- Embroidery Service \$10



Focus Groups

Lightroom - Active, meets third Thursday of every month.

([George Ziegler](#))

Macro - Active, Contact [Ron Cabral](#) for times.

Night - Active, Contact [Noël Calvi](#) or [Rick Rasmussen](#) for times.

People - Active, meets approximately every 4–6 weeks.

([Larry Campbell](#)) for more information.

Video & Drones - Active, third Tuesday of every month.

([David Fredericks](#))

Compact Camera - Active, no regular meetings. ([Ram Gupta](#))

NEW START! iPhoneography - Active, Contact [Michael Sue BrownKorbel](#) for times.

Printing - Currently inactive, but Jack can provide lots of documents to help improve your prints. ([Jack Yovanov](#))

Do Not Forget MHPC on Facebook!

www.facebook.com/MorganHillPhotographyClub

Like the club's page on Facebook and you'll gain another avenue of communication, not only with members, but with all the world.

Make friends with other members in the club (most board members are on Facebook) and share your photographic thoughts and links.

iPhoneography Focus Group is Back!

iPhoneography is the art of creating photos with an Apple iOS phone or tablet. It differs from other forms of digital photography in that images are shot and processed entirely on a mobile device. Group participants share and discuss the latest creative effects, tips, techniques, and applications that can be used for editing and presenting images they have taken. They also share their images and creative efforts on the club's iPhoneography flickr® pool for all to see.

Want to share your iPhone images and see other's images on a big screen? Want to be up on all the apps you can use to edit and publish your images? Then the new and improved iPhoneography Focus Group is for you.

If you are interested, come and join the group, contact Group Facilitator, [Michael Sue BrownKorbel](#).



This Month's Featured Focus Group: Night Photography

Night photography is, like most photography, about light and controlling it thru the exposure triangle (aperture, shutter speed, ISO). You can render the night as cobalt blue during the magic hour (30 minutes after sunset), as the pitch black of midnight, or as if it were day.

What you need:

- Camera (with manual & independent control of focus, aperture, shutter speed, ISO)
- Steady place to mount your camera (table, tripod, car roof)
- Shutter trigger (self timer, remote control, cable, smart phone app)
- Flashlight
- Red headlamp
- Patience

Challenges:

- It's hard to focus at night. If you can, arrive early to scope out the scene and determine your compo-

sition. Focus your lens when it's still light, turn off the autofocus and use gaffer tape (available at meetings) to secure the focus ring in place.

- You typically can't rely on your meter so take a shot and make micro adjustments until the images looks right.
- More noise is introduced as your exposure time increases. Learn the max ISO for where you consider noise to be acceptable. Play with noise reduction options (in camera—which doubles your exposure time; out of camera—which softens the image) to decide what makes sense for the current shot.
- When you shoot in a group using headlamps, inevitably you get the red cast from everyone's lamps. To avoid this, spread out, turn off your lights or, as a last resort, fix post processing.

Want to learn more?

Free Lynda.com courses via the library (see Editor's Notes) cover the topics:

- Landscape Photography:
Night Landscape
- Street Photography:
The City at Night
- Photography Foundations:
Night & Low Light

DEADLINE: “What Is It?”—9:00PM, Tuesday, September 5, 2017

What Is It? —Gallery Show

Call for Entries: The Morgan Hill Photography Club and the City of Morgan Hill are pleased to announce an open call for entries for an upcoming gallery show to be held at the Centennial Recreation Senior Center October 2 through November 10, 2017. Only members of the MHPC are eligible to enter.

The theme of the exhibition is titled: *What Is It?* The objective is to capture a picture of a subject in such a way that the viewer has to question or is unsure what it is. Every photo will be titled *What Is It?* and viewers will need to refer to the Exhibit Guide to confirm what it actually is. Your photographs may be reproduced in black & white, or color. All photos must represent the theme and must be suitable in subject matter for a diverse and general audience.

Your entries must be submitted online by emailing a jpg copy of the image to submissions@morganhill-photographyclub.org no later than 9:00PM Tuesday, September 5, 2017. Resize your image to be 1920 pixels on the longest side. The Gallery Show Committee will only accept entries submitted via email, at the correct size, and which are received before the deadline. NOTE: You should receive an email acknowledgement that we have received your submission within 48 hours. If

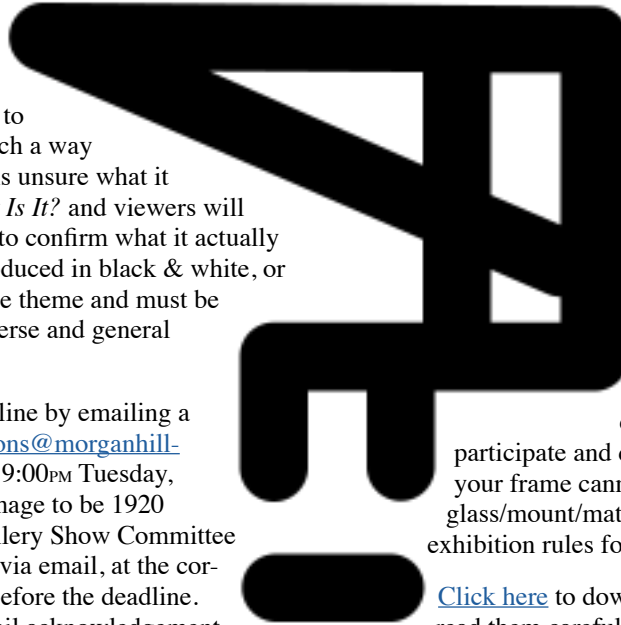
you do not, please use our [contact form](#) to report the situation to the Gallery Show Committee.

Each MHPC member may submit up to three (3) works for review by the selection committee. If submitting more than one image, the probability of selection will be increased if the images are of different subjects.

The photographs must be the original work of the photographer, have been captured by a digital or film photographic process, be framed or mounted (mandatory), and have not been in a previous MHPC exhibition. The minimum size of accepted photographs is 8"x10" (exclusive of the mat and/or frame).

IMPORTANT: Due to the limited space in this venue and the club's desire to have as many members participate and display as many images as possible, your frame cannot be more than 24 inches (size of glass/mount/mat) in the horizontal direction. See the exhibition rules for more information.

[Click here](#) to download the Exhibition Rules, and read them carefully, for detailed guidelines. Some of the rules have changed.



September's Photo Theme: Trains

The train has captured the spirit of America since 1869 when the east and west portions of the country were forever linked with the completion of the first transcontinental railroad. In addition to serving as a mode of shipping and transportation, the train has come to symbolize freedom and, to some, is a nostalgic and romantic way to travel. The popularity of trains is evidenced by the numerous train museums and restorations throughout the country—there is no shortage of subject matter. In addition to the museums and restorations operating trains can easily be found almost anywhere.

When photographing trains in active yards or near operating tracks, be careful. Shooting on private railroad tracks or in operating yards require permission—check before you click that shutter.

Take photographs that fit the theme and upload up to five of them to the club's [Monthly Photo Themes](#) flickr® group. If you are not a member of the Monthly Photo Themes flickr® group learn how to join [here](#).



The Important Dates

Exhibition at the California Academy of Sciences

July–October 2017

Every year, [BigPicture](#) poses the question “What on Earth have you photographed?” as part of our annual Natural World Photography Competition with winning images displayed each summer at the California Academy of Sciences for all visitors to enjoy.

Sciences for all visitors to enjoy.

Featuring the work of award-winning nature, wildlife, and conservation photographers from around the world, the exhibit uses photography as a means to celebrate and illustrate the rich diversity of life on Earth and inspire action to protect and conserve it.

Eastern Sierra Fall Color Shootout

Thursday October 5–Sunday, October 8, 2017

During this shootout participants will be visiting many Eastern Sierra sites resplendent with fall colors. We will visit places such as Dundenberg Meadow, Virginia Lakes and beaver ponds, Carson Pass, Long Valley, Tioga Pass and Canyon, and other places along highway 120. When not in a National or State Park there may be opportunities for photographic drones

to shoot the aspen canopy and colored canyons. Participants are responsible for making sure that drone photography is permitted before taking pictures at any location and whether or not they have the required permits and licenses necessary for such photography. The club will not be responsible for fines imposed by authorities for flying drones illegally or without required licenses and permits.

We will be staying at Lake View Lodge in Lee Vining, CA (www.lakeviewlodgeyosemite.com) Participants are encouraged to share accommodations, if they wish, which will help reduce individual expenses. Dining will be at the groups convenience or on your own. Participants will be shooting wonderful sunrises and sunsets along Highway 395, Mono Lake, and we may get a chance to visit the Historic Ghost town Bodie.

If you want to participate, RSVP to [Mark Grzan](#). Contact Mark for additional information. Please include your cell phone number.

CAR POOL DRIVERS NEEDED: We are looking for car pool drivers, so if you are willing to drive please let Mark Grzan know.

FotoClave 2017

November 3rd–5th, 2017

An Entire Weekend of Photographic Inspiration sponsored by the Northern California Council of Camera Clubs—November 3rd to the 5th. This year it will be held in Pleasanton. Information on the speakers and events is in the attached flyer. This year’s speakers include George Lepp, Seth Resnick and Brenda Tharp. In addition to covering the speakers’ talks and bios, the flyer has links to the online registration site and to the Photography Contest open Free to any registrant. Anyone wishing to use a paper printout of the registration (found at the end) can do so and pay by check. You will locate, as well, a link for the reduced rate hotel registration. In addition, FotoClave will be holding two raffles—a standard one and a Super Raffle. The Super Raffle will have chances to win a new Apple iPad.

There will be vendor tables in the foyer in front of the presentation rooms for much of the weekend for your added interest. [Click here](#) for details.

This is an event you should not miss!



FOTOCLAVE 2017
NOVEMBER 3 - NOVEMBER 5, 2017

AN ENTIRE WEEKEND OF PHOTOGRAPHIC INSPIRATION
Sponsored by the Northern California Council of Camera Clubs

The 2017 Executive Board

George Ziegler

President, Gallery Show Chair,
and Webmaster

Susan Brazelton

Past President and Community Events Director

Noella Vigeant

Vice President and Program Director

Barbara Dawson

Treasurer

Noël Calvi

Membership and Marketing Director

Mark Grzan

Shootout Committee Chair

Jeff DuBridge

Newsletter Editor

Dominic Godfrey

Community Connections Committee Chair

Michael Sue BrownKorbel

Photo Diva

Lennie Randall

Member at Large

Susan Stillman

Member at Large

Morgan Hill Photography Club

General meetings are held on the 1st Wednesday of the month at the Morgan Hill Centennial Recreation Center
171 West Edmundson Avenue, Morgan Hill, CA 95037

<http://morganhillphotographyclub.org>
info@morganhillphotographyclub.org



Membership Application

Personal Information Please print clearly Application to be completed and signed on a yearly basis.	PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY			YOUR LEVEL OF PHOTOGRAPHIC EXPERIENCE/SKILL: <input type="checkbox"/> Beginner <input type="checkbox"/> Low Intermediate <input type="checkbox"/> Intermediate <input type="checkbox"/> High Intermediate <input type="checkbox"/> Advanced/Professional
	Name: _____ Phone: [H] _____ [C] _____ eMail: _____ flickr@ screen name: _____			
	THE CAMERA YOU USE MOST OFTEN: <input type="checkbox"/> Film (any format) <input type="checkbox"/> Phone/Tablet <input type="checkbox"/> Digital SLR <input type="checkbox"/> Point and Shoot <input type="checkbox"/> ILC (mirrorless w/interchangeable lens)		PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERESTS (check all that apply): <input type="checkbox"/> Macro <input type="checkbox"/> Sports/Action <input type="checkbox"/> HD Video <input type="checkbox"/> Night <input type="checkbox"/> People/Portraits <input type="checkbox"/> Nature <input type="checkbox"/> Landscapes <input type="checkbox"/> City/Architecture <input type="checkbox"/> Events <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	
How did you hear about us? _____				
Membership Dues (circle one)	RENEWAL: \$20 Due and payable on or before January 1 of each calendar year.	NEW MEMBERSHIPS:		
		Join in January thru September - includes current year only. \$20	Join in October or November - includes following calendar year. \$25	Join in December - includes following calendar year. \$20
Privacy Opt-IN	MHPC periodically issues a membership directory. Your name and flickr@ screen name will appear in the directory , however, you may elect to share only some of your other personal information. Please circle which personal information you agree to share in the directory.			
	eMail	Home Phone	Cell Phone	None
Membership Agreement and Liability Release	I, _____ PRINT NAME _____, hereby renew or apply for membership in the Morgan Hill Photography Club [MHPC] and request to participate in <i>General Meetings, Shootouts</i> (photographic field trips and walks), <i>Focus Groups</i> (periodic gatherings of members who have a common special photographic interest), <i>Gallery Shows</i> , and other activities [collectively Activities] as organized by MHPC and/or its members. I understand that MHPC has been organized to provide its members and guests with the opportunity to participate in various Activities related to photography. In addition, I understand that such Activities may present inherent physical risks to my person and/or property, and that membership in MHPC does not require my participation in such Activities. I therefore voluntarily assume full responsibility for any loss, damage, or injury that may be sustained by me and/or my property, as a result of participating in such Activities. Furthermore, I understand that MHPC does not provide general liability, accident or theft insurance of any kind for it's members and/or guests. In consideration of membership in MHPC and participation in MHPC's Activities, I hereby agree to indemnify and hold harmless MHPC, its officers, and/or members, from any claims arising out of my participation in any MHPC activity, and agree to refrain from making any claims or commencing any lawsuit against MHPC, its officers and/or members. I agree to the foregoing and acknowledge that I have read and understand the MHPC Membership Agreement and Liability Release. Signature: _____ Date: _____			
Payment	Cash or checks made payable to Morgan Hill Photography Club . A \$25 fee will be charged on all returned checks. Membership dues are non-refundable.			

On the reverse side of this application describe any skills or expertise that you would be willing to share with others.